(*c*) whether there are seniors in service who have been acting as Tahsildars before ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon : (*a*) B. A., Revenue and Account Tests, Survey and Account Training and training as Probationary Revenue Inspector.

(*b*) Panchayat Inspector, Southern Division.

(*c*) Yes.

Mr. K. S. Panicker: മിസ്റ്റർ രാമനെ ആദ്യം പ്രൊഫഷണൽ റവന്യൂ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടരായിട്ടല്ലെ അപ്പോയിൻറ് ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളത്?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon: അതെ.

Mr. K. S. Panicker: ഇദ്ദേഹം സമുദായത്തിനു് റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ പ്രാതിനിദ്ധ്യമില്ലാത്തതിനെ പരിഹരിക്കുവാനുള്ള വ്യവസ്ഥയിലല്ലെ അദ്ദേഹത്തെ റിക്രൂട്ട ചെയ്തത് ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon : There are no written records in my office to show that. As to any other kind of assurance held out I do not know, because I was not there then.

Mr K. S. Panicker: കൌൺസിലിൽവെച്ചു് ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി പറയുകയുണ്ടായിട്ടില്ലെ ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon : I am aware that questions have been asked on that matter.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan : May I know the names of persons whose claims have been overlooked ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon : It is not a case of claims being overlooked. It is a case of appointment being made with due regard to communal inequalities in the superior services.

Mr. President : Are you dissatisfied with the appointment ? (*Laughter*).

PROHIBITION POLICY—ACCOUNT OF.

26. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim : (1) Will the Government be pleased to give an account of their prohibition policy ; and

(2) state whether they have noted that a similar question, admitted for the last session of the previous Council, has not been answered ?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar : (1) Government have not yet accepted total prohibition as their policy.

(2) Yes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim : Sir, will the hon'ble member kindly inform the House whether the original question has any reference whatsoever to the total prohibition ?

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Mr. President: You may withdraw the word "Total".

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: I withdraw that word.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim: Has the Government any programme of partial prohibition?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: No programme of any prohibition at all.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder: Did not Government try to introduce prohibition in certain areas?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: We tried it at Nemmara once and it was a complete failure; that was in 1108. Then the Government made up its mind not to continue it again.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim: Why was this question not answered when it was given sufficient notice last time?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim: Has the Government, Sir, noted, that prohibition has received signal success in a neighbouring Province—in Salem?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: There is a difference of opinion on that point.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim: I am not asking about the hon'ble member's opinion.

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: Whether it was a success or not, opinions differ. Some say it was a success, while some others say it is a failure.

Mr. V. J. Mathai: Do the Government find any tendency on the part of people who used to drink formerly to abstain from drink?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: Our prices are going up.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan: Has the Excise Commissioner gone to Salem and made a thorough study of the Prohibition Act?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: No.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim: What is the hon'ble member's position to say that there are some authorities who hold that it is a failure?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: I read a certain article in Mail or so.

Mr. M. K. Devassy: Had the Government occasion to go through the report on Prohibition Act in Madras?

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Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar: Has the Government thought about any policy?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: Ever since the inception of the Council questions have been put and Government thought over the matter and they introduced prohibition in a certain area—Nemmara. It was a complete failure. And then we gave it up. Ever afterwards there was no question at all. As a matter of policy even the Legislative Council gave it up.

Mr. M. K. Devassy: May I know in what aspect was it a failure in Nemmara?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: People of Nemmara were going to the neighbouring British parts to drink. We were losing our revenue. We thought it better not to lose our revenue.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu: Supposing prohibition is introduced?

Mr. President: It is a hypothetical question.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon: Has the Excise Commissioner read any authoritative opinion about the success of prohibition?

Mr. President: Since it is a matter involving an opinion on the action of a neighbouring Government what the Commissioner said was to his knowledge there has been difference of opinion on the subject. Beyond that the Commissioner is not authorised to say anything.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar: Am I to understand that the Government have no idea of introducing prohibition or total prohibition in the near future?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: No idea up to this date.

Mr. M. K. Devassy: Has the Government any objection to reduce the number of shops?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: We have no objection. We are reducing it year after year. For the next year I find more than 170 shops have been abolished.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan: Will the Government be pleased to close all the toddy shops on the general election day?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: It will be considered at the time of the next election.

Mr. M. K. Devassy: Have the Government any objection to close all shops after 6 p. m.?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: I want notice.

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Mr. M. K. Devassy : Are the Government aware that several cut-motions were brought to this effect, when Mr. K. T. Mathew was a member ?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar : I do not know.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim : Is it because of the apprehension regarding the revenue that the Government is averse to this matter?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar : That is one of the considerations.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim : Is it the main consideration ?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar : Yes. There are several other considerations also.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim : Will the Government be prepared to give a serious consideration to this question ?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar : That also we will consider.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim : Is it the position of the Government that Cochin will continue to be wet to eternity ?

ANCHAL OFFICE—KARUVELIPPADI—SHIFTING OF.

27. Mr. L. M. Pylee : Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether representations have been received from the people of Thoppumpadi, Palluruthy to the effect that the newly opened branch Anchal Office for that place being located at Karuvelippadi is at an inconvenient distance from the business and populous centre of the locality ;

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to investigate whether it would not be more useful to the public to have the Anchal Office located at a central place at Thoppumpadi instead of at Karuvelippadi as at present ?

Mr. P. J. George : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Government have already made enquiries and decided that no shifting from the present site is necessary.

Mr. L. M. Pylee : May I know, Sir, whether the present is a populous part of the locality ?

Mr. P. J. George : That is the most convenient centre for locating an Anchal Office. That is what the Government have understood from enquiries.

Mr. L. M. Pylee : My question is whether it is in the most populous centre ?

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